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ABSTRACT

This module on special operations, one in a series dealing with industrial sewing machines, their attachments, and operation, covers two topics: topstitching and mitering. For each topic these components are provided: an introduction, directions, an objective, learning activities, student information, a student self-check, and a check-out activity. An instructor's final checklist for evaluating the student's performance is attached. (YLB)

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ED233207

MODULE 20

SPECIAL OPERATION:

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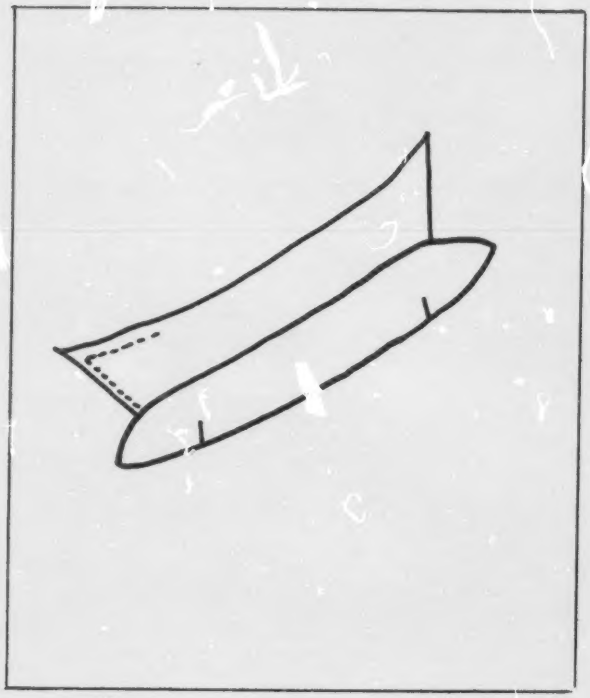
TOPSTITCHING



SPECIAL OPERATIONS
(Topstitching)

INTRODUCTION

Topstitching is a decorative stitch which gives a more tailored look to garments. The stitching is usually longer than a regular seam stitch. Bindings, hems, pleats, seams, and waistbands are the most obvious places for topstitching. This work must be even and at an equal distance from the seam, according to the manufacturer's specifications. In this module, you will learn the steps involved in topstitching.

DIRECTIONS

Read the Objective. If you think you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given a single needle lockstitch machine, simulated collar, thread, and snips, topstitch a collar. The topstitching must be straight and even in width, and the corners must be square.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, TOPSTITCHING SQUARE CORNERS.
2. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, TOPSTITCHING SQUARE CORNERS.
3. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Topstitching Square Corners

Manufacturers specify topstitching on garments to give them a more tailored look and to add eye appeal. Topstitching is usually decorative due to the location of the stitching on collars, sleeves, seams, pleats, and waistbands.

The distance of the topstitching from the seam or edge of the garment is determined by the manufacturer's specifications. Topstitching is usually done on the single needle lockstitch machine.

Follow these steps in topstitching.

1. With material lying flat, turn the seam to center front or center back depending upon specifications.
2. Measure the topstitching seam 1/4 inch (.64 cm) from seam.
3. Stitch on right side of material (Figure 1).

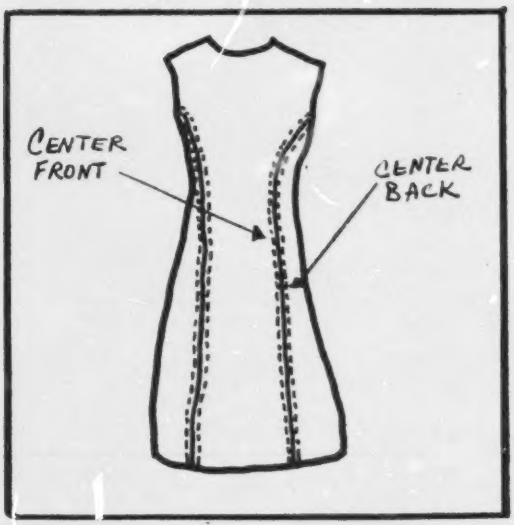


Figure 1

Topstitching widths vary from 1/4 inch to 1 inch (.64 to 2.5 cm), depending on the type of garment and material. An operator may use a special type of topstitching foot and gauges or only a gauge, depending on the width of the topstitching.

Follow these steps in topstitching a collar.

1. Secure a simulated collar, thread, and snips (Figure 2).

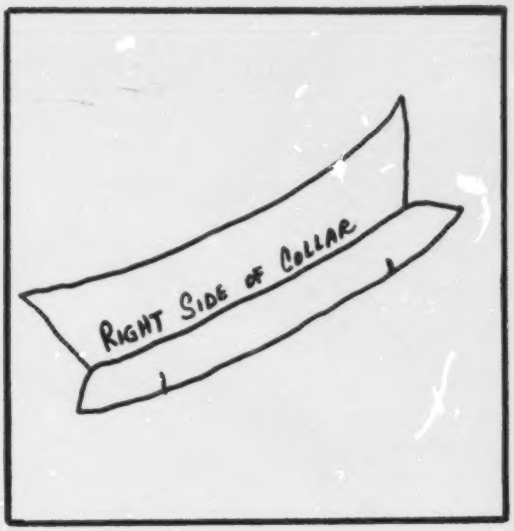


Figure 2

2. Thread a single needle lockstitch machine according to manufacturer's specifications.
3. Set the machine at 8 to 10 stitches per inch (2.54 cm).
4. Place fabric under compensating or gauge foot* and stitch 1/4 inch (.64 cm) from the edge until you reach the corner of the collar. Stop 1/4 inch (.64 cm) from the corner so that when you turn the corner, the needle is in position to make the 1/4 inch (.64 cm) seam down the other side.
5. Lift the presser foot slightly so that the needle remains in the fabric. Leave enough space between the presser foot and the feed dog to turn the fabric.

*Compensating or gauge presser foot is a specially made presser foot used for accuracy on collars, pockets, etc.

Turn the fabric so that you have a square corner (Figure 3).

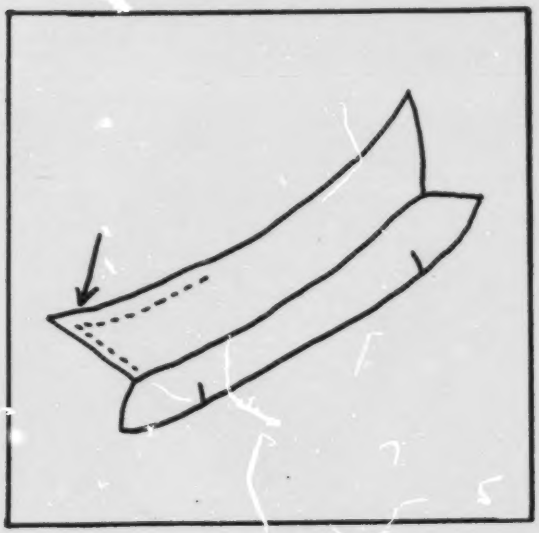


Figure 3

6. Continue stitching until you reach the other corner of the collar.

7. Repeat Step 5 and turn a square corner. Your simulated collar should look like the one in Figure 4. In industry, an operator should be able to topstitch 300 collars per hour. The piece rate on standard collars is approximately $3.00 per 100.

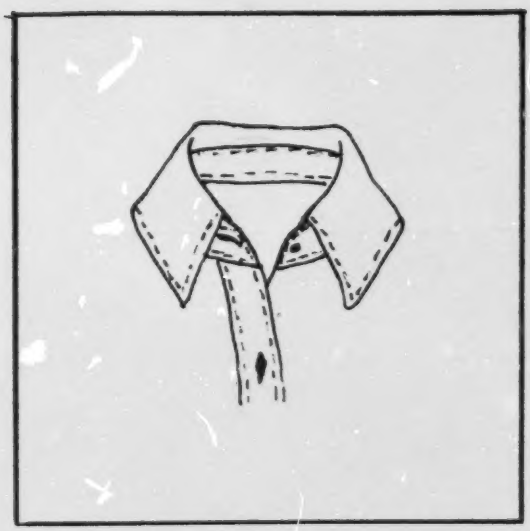


Figure 4

This procedure requires skill and a great deal of practice and accuracy.

Figures 5 and 6 are other examples of topstitching.

Figure 5

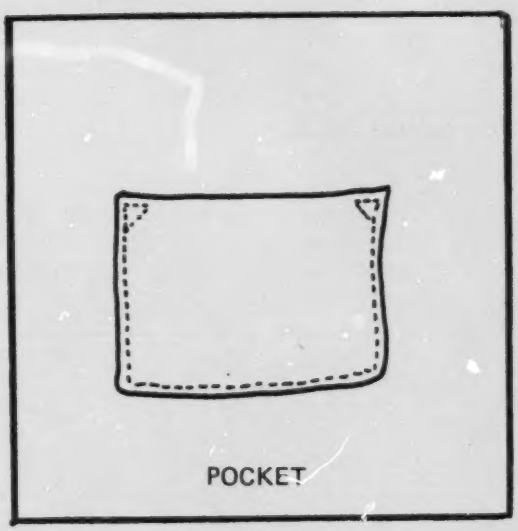


Figure 6

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Topstitching Square Corners

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Topstitching is necessary for every garment. (True or false)

2. The stitching must be even and at an equal distance from the seam. (True or false)

3. The distance of the topstitching from the seam is determined by the manufacturer's specifications. (True or false)

4. The stitches are usually 8 to 10 s.p.i. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITY

The statement below explains the activity you must complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activity, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, SPECIAL OPERATIONS (Topstitching).

Your instructor will provide you with a lockstitch machine, thread, snips, and a collar. Topstitching done on the collar must be straight, even in width, and have square corners.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

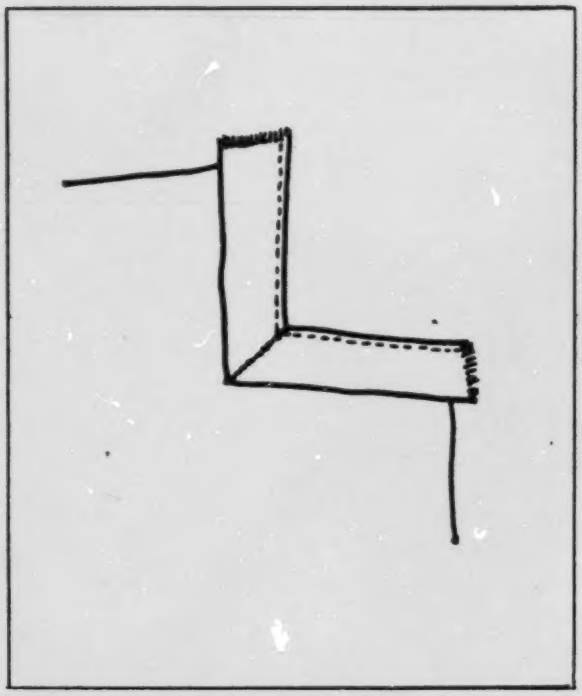
Check the student's performance in the following elements of special operations (topstitching).

Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
a. Topstitched a seam without puckers.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Topstitched a seam even with the existing seam.	( )	( )	( )	( )
c. Topstitched a seam on the correct side of the material.	( )	( )	( )	( )
d. Topstitched the corner of the collar squarely.	( )	( )	( )	( )

MITERING



SPECIAL OPERATIONS
(Mitering)

INTRODUCTION

Mitering is a neat and easy means of eliminating bulk at corners. Most miters involve folds at either right angles or 45° angles to the seam or strip being mitered. In this module, you will learn the process of mitering.

DIRECTIONS

Read the Objective. If you think you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given a single needle lockstitch machine, simulated V-neck shirt, and binding, miter the inward corner of binding. This corner must lie flat and be free of puckers and wrinkles. The binding must also be uniform in width.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, MITERING.
2. VIEW a teacher demonstration on mitering a V-neck shirt.
3. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, MITERING.
4. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Mitering

The method used in mitering depends on whether you are working with binding or continuous strips of trim and whether the miter is made as you attach the trim.

Pockets or appliques requiring square corners need to be mitered in order to easily trim excess fullness. Since mitering is the diagonal joining of two edges at the corner, the corner may be outward or inward. If the mitered piece goes around the corner, it is an outward corner. If it lies within the corner, it is an inward corner as seen in a V-neck shirt.

Follow these steps when mitering a v-neck shirt.

1. Construct a mitered binding by placing two pieces of cloth together which have been cut at a 45° angle or seam the cloth strip into a triangle effect (Figure 7).

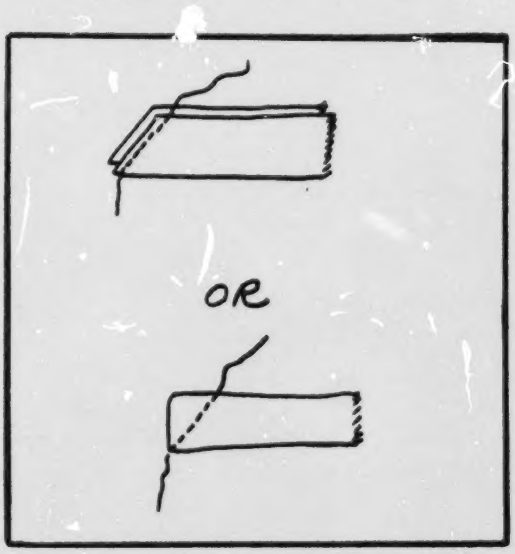


Figure 7

2. Place simulated shirt neck on machine wrong side up. Clip 1/2 inch (1.27 cm) at the point of the "V" (Figure 8).

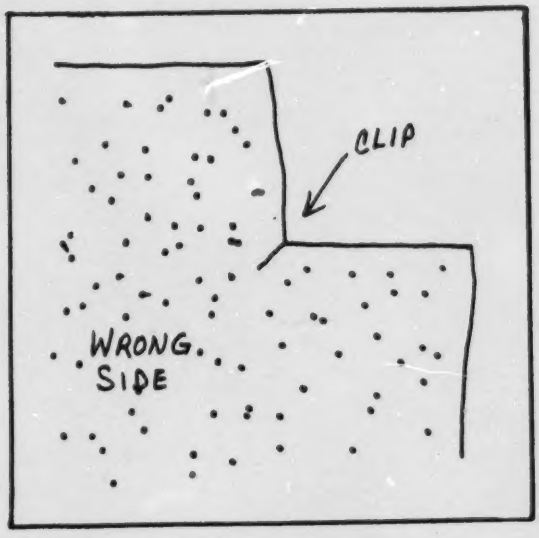


Figure 8

3. Place mitered binding (constructed in Step 1) in position over the V-cut material with edges of binding even with edge of cloth. Right side of binding is against wrong side of cloth (Figure 9).

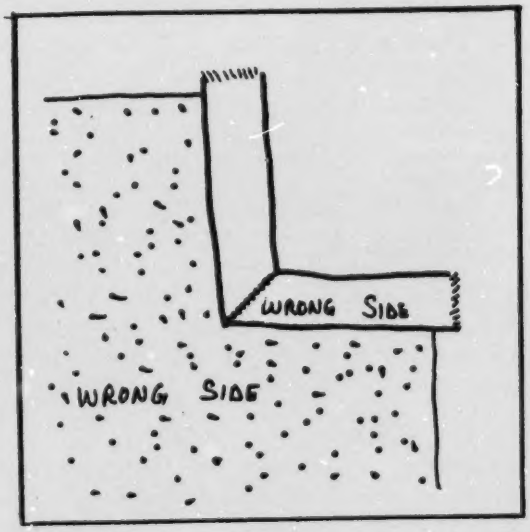


Figure 9

4. Stitch the binding to the material. When turning the corner, lift the presser foot just enough to turn the corner but do not raise the needle. Finish stitching the mitered binding (Figure 10).

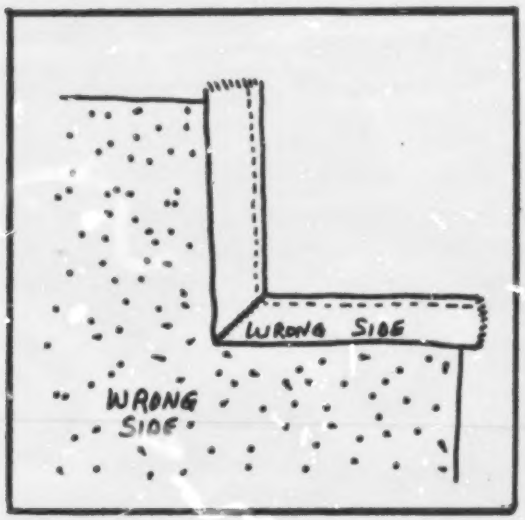


Figure 10

5. Turn the binding to the right side of the cloth, and fold the binding to lie flat and smooth. The raw edge of the binding should be turned under 1/4 inch (.64 cm). Topstitch both edges of the binding. Leave the needle in the cloth and raise presser foot slightly when turning the corner in the "V" (Figure 11).

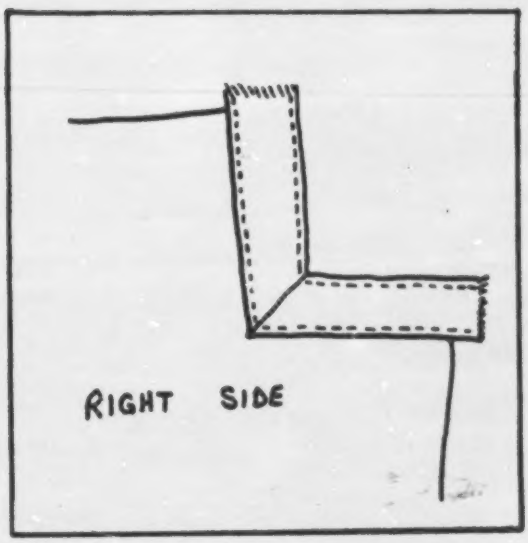


Figure 11

6. Practice binding simulated V-neck shirts until you are able to stitch a mitered corner that meets performance standards. Figure 12 is an acceptable mitered V-neck.

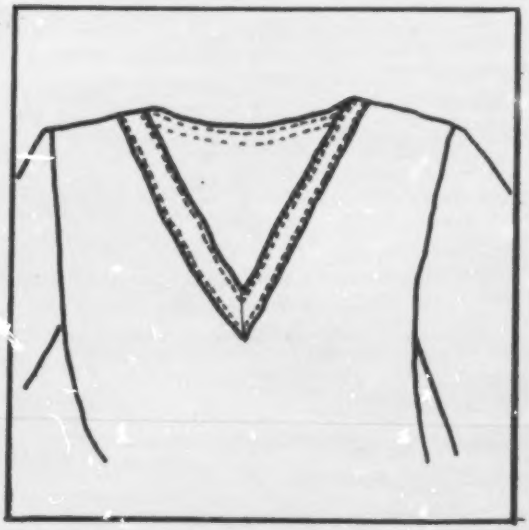


Figure 12

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Mitering

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Mitering is the diagonal joining of two edges at the corner. (True or false)

2. A mitered corner may be outward or inward. (True or false)

3. When turning the corner in mitering, the needle stays in the cloth while the presser foot is lifted slightly. (True or false)

4. An outward miter is found on the V-neck shirt. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITY

The statement below explains the activity you must complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activity, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, SPECIAL OPERATIONS (Mitering).

Your instructor will provide you with a single needle lockstitch machine, simulated V-Neck shirt, and binding. Miter the inward corner of the binding.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

Check the student's performance in the following elements of special operations (mitering).

Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
The student:	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
a. Mitered an inward corner of binding on a simulated V-neck shirt.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Made a mitered corner that was flat and free of puckers.	( )	( )	( )	( )
c. Stitched binding uniform in width and with even seams.	( )	( )	( )	( )